

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 220762

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ORIGIN NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 IO-03 AID-05 EA-07 ISO-00 AGR-03 EB-03 RSC-01

COME-00 TRSE-00 SWF-01 SS-14 SP-02 NSC-07 PA-01 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /065 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:DLBLAKEMORE:MRC

APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:PDCONSTABLE

IO:RPOOLE (PHONE)

IO/AGR:CECOBB (PHONE)

AID/ASIA/SA:RBECKMAN (PHONE)

EA/EP:RWHITE (PHONE)

EA/TB:VTOMSETH (SUBS)

EA/J:DBROWN (SUBS

----- 029650

P R 072106Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC, EGEN, BG

SUBJ: FOOD FOR BANGLADESH

REF: USUN 3702

1. SUGGEST MISSION RESPOND ALONG FOLLOWING LINES TO
SPECIFIC POINTS RE BANGLADESH FOOD SITUATION RAISED BY
SYG'S OFFICE:

A) UNDRO ESTIMATE OF 120,000 TONS GAP IN OCTOBER BETWEEN
AVAILABLE STOCKS AND BDG REQUIREMENTS IS CONSISTENT WITH
INFORMATION WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM BDG MINISTRY OF FOOD.

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PAGE 02 STATE 220762

B) THERE WILL BE NO CONCESSIONALLY FINANCED US GRAIN

ARRIVING IN BANGLADESH IN OCTOBER. PL 480 AGREEMENT
SIGNED IN DACCA OCTOBER 4 COVERS 150,000 TONS OF GRAIN
WHICH SHOULD BE ARRIVING BANGLADESH MID/LATE NOVEMBER.
FYI WE UNDERSTAND THAT AT LEAST PART OF A NEW AUSTRALIAN
CONTRIBUTION OF 77,000 TONS OF WHEAT SHOULD ARRIVE IN
BD BEFORE THE END OF OCTOBER. END FYI.

C) UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ARE NO RPT NO PL 480 SHIPMENTS
PRESENTLY IN TRANSIT TO OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH COULD BE
DIVERTED TO BANGLADESH.

2. WHILE WE AGREE WITH UNDRO ASSESSMENT THAT FOOD

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SITUATION IN BANGLADESH WILL BE PARTICULARLY CRITICAL
IN LATE OCTOBER/EARLY NOVEMBER PERIOD, IT IS CLEAR FROM
PARA 1 ABOVE THAT USG CAN DO NOTHING DIRECTLY TO HELP
ALLEVIATE SITUATION. IT MIGHT BE USEFUL, HOWEVER, FOR
MISSION TO INFORMALLY SUGGEST TO SYG'S OFFICE THAT THE
LATTER MAY WISH TO APPROACH COUNTRIES IN A BETTER
GEOGRAPHIC POSITION TO RESPOND QUICKLY TO THE BD CRISIS.
POSSIBILITIES WHICH COME TO MIND INCLUDE DIVERSION TO
BANGLADESH OF COMMERCIAL SHIPMENTS OF THAI RICE ENROUTE
TO JAPAN, HONG KONG, SINGAPORE OR ELSEWHERE. (IT SHOULD
BE MADE CLEAR THAT WE ENVISION A CONTRIBUTION BY A
THIRD COUNTRY TO THE RESOLUTION OF THE BD CRISIS, NOT
RPT NOT A LOAN TO BE MADE GOOD LATER BY USG.) KISSINGER

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